(*b*) the dates of their file and the dates of their disposal ;

(*c*) the number of such cases in which attachment of properties was ordered ;

(*d*) the dates of ordering such attachment ;

(*e*) the dates on which such attachment was ordered to be released and the dates on which such attachment was actually withdrawn ;

(*f*) the number of cases, in each court, in which the properties in dispute are not delivered over to the parties who have been declared to be entitled to the possession thereof ;

(*g*) the reason for such delay in each case ;

(*h*) the number of cases in which even now the income from the disputed properties is being taken by the receivers, and has not been handed over to the parties entitled thereto ;

(*i*) the number of applications now pending in each court by parties for the return of the attached properties and for the disbursement of income taken by receivers, the dates of such applications, and the reason for the delay, if such applications are still pending ;

(*j*) the amount of annual income derived from properties attached in each case and the annual expenditure incurred for the administration of the properties by receivers appointed by the courts ?

N. B.—The above items of information may be given in a tabular form showing particulars in respect of each court.

(2) Have Government or the High Court issued any orders with regard to the appointment of receivers of properties attached, pending investigation of disputes ? If not, will Government be pleased to cause rules to be framed to ensure the proper administration of such properties ?

(3) Are such receivers required to furnish security? If not, will Government be pleased to issue instructions in this behalf ?

(4) Are Government aware that unreasonable delay in releasing properties, and careless, negligent or imprudent administration of these properties by their subordinate officers will expose the Government to the chances of paying damages to aggrieved parties ?

(5) Will Government be pleased to appoint official receivers for each District at an early date so that the properties attached by criminal courts pending disputes may also be entrusted to them for management ?

Chief Secretary Mr. N. Rajaram Rao.

17 A.—(1) The compilation of the information called for by the Member would involve considerable time and labour. Nevertheless, Government will call for the information.

(2) to (5) The question of the appointment of official receivers is engaging the attention of Government; the matter is under correspondence with the High Court.

Mr. C. Raman Tampi.

18 Q.—Will Government be pleased to call for a statement from all courts in Travancore exercising appellate powers in criminal cases on the following points :—

(*a*) the number of cases in which the decisions of subordinate courts (for the last 5 years) were reversed by appellate courts and fines ordered to be refunded ;

(*b*) the dates of such appellate decisions and the dates on which such orders of refund were communicated to the subordinate courts ;

(*c*) the number of cases in each court where such refund orders have not yet been issued, and the dates of decisions of such cases ?

(*d*) Is there any rule compelling the courts to send periodical statements regarding the issue of such refund orders either to superior courts or to Government ? If not, will Government kindly issue orders in this behalf ?

(*e*) If delay has been caused in issuing orders of refund in respect of cases referred to in paragraph (*c*) above, will Government be pleased to call for explanation from the officers concerned in respect of such delay ?

(*f*) In view of grave irregularities and delays in the conduct of criminal cases, will Government be pleased to make the arrangements set forth below :—

(i) to divest all magistrates of all their revenue and other executive functions at an early date;

(ii) to appoint at least 50 per cent. of the Magistrates generally and all those Magistrates who exercise appellate jurisdiction particularly, by direct recruitment from the Bar; and

(iii) to place all magistrates under the direct control of the High Court.

Chief Secretary Mr. N. Rajaram Rao.

18 Q.—(*a*) to (*c*) The compilation of the information called for by the Member would involve considerable time and labour. Nevertheless, Government will call for the information.

(*d*) & (*e*) Government will enquire.

(*f*) (i) The Member is referred to the answer to question No. 10.

(*f*) (ii) & (iii) No.

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